a copy was discovered at last and purchased by Mr Malone in the year 1800 from Mr Fordham bookseller in Manchester.

Steevens wanted the Merchant of Venice 1600; also Fisher's edit. of M. N. Dream. 1600; also King Richard III. 1597; the first part of King Henry IV. 1599; the first edition of Lear, 1608; T. & Troilus & Cressida 1609; T. & Troilus 1596.

Pope's Coll.n also wanted the two copies of K. Lear which are found here in addition to the more common one, viz. he possessed & which is also here.

This Collection of Shakspeare's Plays and Poems in seven Quarto volumes, (with which several pieces on which he constructed dramas, bound up among my Shakspeariana, must be considered as connected) forms perhaps the most complete assemblage of the early editions of his productions that has ever been made. It wants only the Hamlet of 1604, King Richard II. 1597, King Henry IV. Part I. 1598, and Venus and Adonis, 4to 1593, to make it complete; and of those three plays it contains very early copies, carefully collated with those original editions; and of the fourth piece (the Venus and Adonis of 1593) no copy was ever seen by any of the Collectors of these precious rarities, or is now known to exist, though I have no doubt that at some future time it will be discovered. †

Having now finished my Collection, and amassed as many ancient editions of this great author's pieces as I shall probably ever be able to procure, which I have bound up in such a manner that they may be for ever preserved, I have been led to compare it with other similar assemblages.

The most curious and ample Collections of Shakspeare's pieces, which have been made since the time of Pope †, are, 1 Mr Capell's, now preserved in the Library of Trinity College in Cambridge; 2 the late Mr Stevens's, now dispersed; 3 that formed by the late Mr Garrick, now dispersed; 4 the Collection of Mr Kemble of Drury Lane theatre; and, 5, that of the late Mr Jennings of Gopsal in Leicestershire, now the

† Pope's Collection wanted the three editions wanting here, viz K. Richard II. 1597, K. Henry IV. P. I. 1598; and Hamlet, 1604; and also the Venus and Adonis, 1593. It likewise wanted the Venus & Adonis, 1596, Lucrece 1594, The Sonnets, 1609, the 1st of K. Henry V. 1598, and the first Part of the Contention &c. which are found here. SAS